

floor. This is a very important piece of legislation, obviously. The bipartisan commission has spoken to this.

I have read the report, by the way. I think it is an excellent report. We are very hopeful that we not only will have the opportunity to amend any and all sections of the bill, but that we will have the opportunity to offer a substitute, not just simply a motion to recommit, but a substitute at the appropriate time. I would hope that the leader, given the importance of this legislation, would assure the minority that we would have that opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to yield to my friend.

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. As the gentleman knows, the chairman of the Committee on Rules is sitting here. I think he is going to make an announcement about amendments and substitutes.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding, and I appreciate his request. The announcement I am going to be making in just a few minutes, as soon as the colloquy between the distinguished minority whip and the distinguished majority leader is completed, is one which will call for the establishment of new Federal judgeships.

At this juncture, probably on Monday, we will likely be making an announcement as we anticipate the work product that will be emerging on the 9/11 report.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those comments.

Mr. Speaker, I would say to the majority leader and to the chairman of the Committee on Rules, this legislation was introduced less than a week ago. It has been marked up this week. It will be on the floor next week. That is a very rapid progression.

I think, Mr. Leader, respectfully, that that calls for even greater opportunity for Members to work their will on the floor, with the ability to offer such amendments as they deem to be appropriate and would include the opportunity to offer an entire package in the form of a substitute. I would hope that that would happen.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2004, TO MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2004

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO S. 878, ADDITIONAL PERMANENT JUDGESHIP IN THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of October 4, as I was just saying, to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of S. 878, a bill to create additional Federal court judgeships. The Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill reported on September 9, 2004, and filed its report with the House on September 29, 2004.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 of the Capitol by 2 p.m. on Monday, October 4. Members should draft their amendments to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on the Judiciary, which is available for their review on the Web sites of both the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Rules.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be sure their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LINDA THEIL ON HER RETIREMENT

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Linda Theil on her retirement from 33 years of public service as a staff member in the House of Representatives.

When I was just starting my first term in Congress in 1993, Linda came to my staff. Her expertise and vast knowledge of education policy have been invaluable to me as a Member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. She has worked on legislation, including the Child Nutrition Act, the School Breakfast Pilot Program, Head Start, the Balancing Act, and Welfare Reform, to name only a few.

Mr. Speaker, Linda Theil is the role model for what every single staff mem-

ber should be, dedicated, hardworking, caring and devoted. Her presence will be missed but not forgotten.

Thank you, congratulations, and best wishes, Linda.

GLOBAL WARMING

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, there are two very significant things which happened today regarding global warming. The first is that the U.S. Department of Commerce's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey, announced that they had completed the largest computer simulation of what will happen in global warming and how it will affect hurricanes. They concluded that the seas being warmed by rising atmospheric concentration of gases will result in a typical hurricane intensity increasing about an extra half step on the five-step scale.

This is not good news, Mr. Speaker, particularly since our Nation, under this administration, is not doing anything significant to deal with global warming.

In contrast, interestingly, today, Russia and their parliament indicated that it is likely they will join the Kyoto Protocol to deal with global warming. This is a difficulty for our businesses if this becomes a worldwide regime and we are not part of the international effort.

We hope tonight there will be some discussion of this. And if not, one way or another, this November, Americans will vote for a president who will decide to take some action on global warming.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SMART SECURITY AND GLOBAL CHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, in the days and weeks after September 11, 2001, Americans pulled together to restore our country after the worst terrorist attack in United States history. For the rest of September that year, there were no Democrats, there were no Republicans, there were only Americans.

In those trying times in the fall of the year 2001, I believe that no American would have hesitated to make a substantial sacrifice for the good of the country, just as Americans have done

in other times of need, like during World War II and the 1979 energy crisis.

If President Bush had asked America in the days after September 11 to cut down on the use of fossil fuels in order to reduce our dependence on Middle East oil, America would have responded. Sadly, the President did not ask us to do any such thing.

Instead of asking Americans to sacrifice, President Bush irresponsibly gave the top 1 percent of Americans a huge tax cut, leaving our children and their children to pick up the tab for the unnecessary war in Iraq, a cost already over \$200 billion. Because nothing endangers America's security more than our reliance on Mideast oil, instead of promoting these reckless tax cuts, the Bush administration should have advocated immediate development of sustainable and renewable energy alternatives.

I am not the only one who realizes this. Just ask the good people at Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, and Women's Action For New Direction. These groups understand that our dependence on unsustainable energy sources, like Mideast oil, undermines America's security and our health.

And speaking about health, 50 years from now, our children will ask us how we allowed starvation, poverty, and diseases like HIV and AIDS and tuberculosis to flourish in other countries while the citizens of wealthy nations who have so much were not inflicted as greatly. That is why any attempt to fight terrorism must also include providing humanitarian aid to the poorest nations. Humanitarian aid in the form of food and medical supplies would restore hope to the world's poorest people. Nothing breeds terrorism like the hopelessness and despair brought about by starvation, disease and poverty.

For sure, the United States needs to lead the rest of the world when it comes to fighting terrorism, but the U.S., the strongest and richest country in the world, must lead by example rather than through invading other nations and killing thousands of innocent civilians in the process.

Throwing our weight around will not gain the support of other nations. Instead, we must meet our obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Biological Weapons Convention, and the Chemical Weapons Convention. There has to be a better way to respond to the threats America faces. That is why I have introduced H. Con. Res. 392, a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stands for Sensible Multilateral American Response to Terrorism.

SMART security treats war as an absolute last resort. It fights terrorism with stronger intelligence and multilateral partnerships, and it controls the spread of weapons of mass destruction with aggressive diplomacy, strong regional security arrangements and

vigorous inspection regimes. SMART security defends America by relying on the very best of America, not our nuclear capabilities but our capacity for multinational leadership and our commitment to peace and freedom around the world.

Madam Speaker, the true moral test of our government is not how many wars we win, it is our compassion, our compassion for those in the world who are less fortunate than we are. It is how we treat these individuals that determines the true moral quality of America. Physicians for Social Responsibility, the Friends Committee on National Legislation, Women's Action For New Direction, and many Americans understand this.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 5149. An act to reauthorize the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program through March 31, 2005, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5183. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2436. An act to reauthorize the Native American Programs Act of 1974.

□ 1815

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the Special Order time of the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

#### JUDGES OF MADISON COUNTY, PART 2

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to once again discuss the

judges of Madison County, Illinois, Part 2. It sounds like a book. Maybe it will be; maybe it should be.

Last night I rose to address what the American Tort Reform Association calls America's number one judicial hellhole, also known as Madison County, Illinois. As I promised then, I am back to shine a little more light into that hole. There is absolutely no doubt the ripple effect of frivolous civil lawsuits has been felt in every corner of this great country. When greedy trial lawyers get together to brainstorm which companies they can sue for millions and millions of dollars and put no less than 40 percent of their winnings in their own pocket, everyone loses; everyone, that is, except the trial lawyers. And one greedy trial lawyer who makes darn sure he never loses when it comes to lining his own pockets is Randall Bono from Madison County.

Mr. Bono has made a fair living doing business in this judicial hellhole on the backs of hardworking men and women. In fact, he was able to retire at the age of 42 from the millions of dollars that he won in asbestos civil lawsuits.

Madam Speaker, I may never know how Mr. Bono or other trial lawyers sleep at night knowing they have made their fortunes because of civil injustice being doled out in Madison County, Illinois, but I know as long as this hellhole remains open for business and scoundrels like Mr. Bono use it to take hard-earned money away from working folks, I will be in the well night after night in this House to stand up to say enough is enough.

I rise tonight specifically to address the first amendment violations of the courts of Madison County, Illinois. That is right; with the court's authority in Madison County, trial lawyers have violated or at least chilled the exercise of first amendment rights held by members of the media and civil defendants.

I admit, Madam Speaker, it is a rare occasion for me to stand up and defend the media, but I simply cannot and will not let the courts of Madison County trash the rights our forefathers worked so hard to ensure for everybody. If Members think the media or anyone else is safe from the wrath of Madison County, think again, Madam Speaker. Consider just a few of the cases outlined in my letter to Attorney General Ashcroft requesting a formal investigation of Madison County, Illinois and all their shenanigans.

In one effort to trash somebody's first amendment rights in Madison County, a plaintiff's law firm made legal maneuvers in June 2004 to try and force defendants to share and discuss any associations with or support of groups promoting tort reform. At least one of these groups has filed a motion for protective order with the court because their feelings about tort reform have absolutely nothing to do with the case before them, and forcing them to share this information is an infringement of their first amendment rights.